Panel Discussion

Lessons Learned from Operation Iraqi Freedom

0800 – 0900

12 May 2004

OIF Lessons Learned Panel Members

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OIF Panel Format

- Moderator – Open: Set the objectives — approach
  Top level questions
- Panel members: 5-10 minute comments — observations
  Each panel member
- Panel dialogue: Exchange and dialogue among panel
  Moderator facilitate
- Written questions: Submitted from the attendees
- Open questions: From attendees
- Closing comments: From panel members

Objectives

- Capture “lessons learned” influence on Small Arms weapon/armaments and related systems
  - Operations
  - System integration
  - Subsystems
  - Technology
  - Supportability
  - Readiness
- Identify what was positive and what changes are needed
- Identify technology, system integration, and supportability drivers from lessons learned
- Priority guidelines/objectives for
  - DoD laboratories/acquisitions
  - Industry

OIF “Lessons Learned” Panel

1. What went well?
2. What were limitations?
3. What were issues – problems?
4. Was the armament community (DoD and industry) effective and responsive?
5. Response and result of rapid response — needs — new items — mods — quantity — schedule
6. What are the top take-away messages to:
   - Address specifically
   - Carry forward
7. Actions to DoD developers and acquisition
8. Actions to industry

Service Unique Observations

- Army
- SOF
- Navy
- Air Force
- Marines

Lessons learned unique to each service

Impact/Benefits of Joint Operations — JROC Process

- Weapon/armament
  - Requirements
  - Commonality
  - Availability
  - Supportability

Capability Based Force

How Did OIF Shape Future Joint Operations?

OIF Discussion Topics

- Readiness – response – availability
- Future force impact
  - Systems
  - Capability
  - Quantity
  - Training
- JROC process — What is impact?
- Capability based force impact
- DoD lab resources response
- Industry response

} National Center impact?

Lessons Learned: OIF

- Weapons/armaments positive observations/capabilities
  - What went well?
    - Weapons
    - Ammunition
    - Electro-optical and fire control
    - Communications
    - Mounts
- Small Arms capability
  - Lethality
  - Range
  - Type of warhead
- Impact of precision weapons/armaments/munition?
- How can we build on experience?

OIF “Lessons Learned” Panel

- What weapon/armament capability was not available?
- Ammunition resources
- Were weapons/armaments limited by system integration factor?
  - Acquisition
  - Fire control
  - Targeting information
  - Communication
- Was weapon/armament capability mix adequate for
  - Operations
  - Asymmetric threats
  - Urban environments
- What should change — when — how?

OIF “Lessons Learned” Panel

- Was weapon/armament training matched to operational scenarios?
- Were weapons/armaments/munition available and supportable?
  - Production base responsiveness
  - Maintenance
  - Spares
  - Logistics
- Is Small Arms community impacted by capability based force?
- How will “lessons learned” – system/ammo usage impact acquisition?

OIF “Lessons Learned” Panel

- What weapon/armament/ammunition capability was desired but not available?
- What specific technologies are needed?
  - Weapons
  - Ammunition
  - Electro-optics/fire controls
  - Networked fires
- What system integration changes are priority?
  - New platforms
  - Robotics
  - Network fires
- Impact of joint operations
  - How does jointness impact Small Arms?
  - What is needed to support jointness?
  - JROC process

OIF Lesson Learned "Bottom Line"

- Capture and use of "lessons learned" is critical to
  - Current force readiness
  - Future force definition and implementation
- Joint operational capability will evolve from "lessons learned" — JROC?
- Priority needs
  - Key characteristics identify
  - Additional will be added
- Capability based force — acquisition plans/need — future

Open Architecture and Spiral Development Enable "Lessons Learned" Responsiveness